



THE BLURB

September
1959

PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC.



VACATIONS NOW ARE OVER, AND WINTER'S DRAWING NEAR
GET YOUR XMTR BACK IN ORDER, SEND YOUR SIG. LOUD & CLEAR!

175000

MEETING NOTICE

(Or, Don't Make a Jackass Out of Yourself by Showing Up September 7th)

This month, Labor Day necessitates that we hold our regular meeting on the second Monday rather than the first Monday. To confound matters even further, the month couldn't possibly start any later than it does, so the meeting is delayed all the way to September 14. (Note also that Friday the 13th falls on a Sunday this month.) If you're still with us, it shows you are interested, and you will therefore be interested in the program, which is as follows:

- 1- W3PKY with edited (?) movies of his latest trip to Thule.
- 2- W3WNC conducting another "short" auction with lots of goodies.
- 3 W3BBB with Part One of "Starting Mobile Operation".
- 4- W3AWH explaining how to hit a soaking wet soft ball 100 yards.

FROM THE PRESIDENT

The other evening one of our local papers which nearly everybody reads carried an interesting item. More people in the United States have automobiles than telephones or bank accounts. In fact, two thirds of the world's passenger cars are owned by Americans and they spend ten percent of their incomes to maintain them. In the average family budget, personal transportation ranks second only to food.

The significance of such statistics may not reflect accurately the strength of our economy or the true tastes of our culture. Be that as it may, there are many cars around AND in some of them there should be ham gear. More specifically, in your car there should be a working ham rig with a club crystal. Not next month, sometime, but now!

This is a mobile amateur radio club. Many believe that it is the very best there is- not just in this part of the country- but in the whole, wide, up and down, vertically polarized world. Most of our members are mobile but some, alas, are not. Our goal is for every member to go mobile and stay mobile. To this end, a portion of our next few regular monthly meetings will be devoted to painless inexpensive ways of putting your car on the air with a solid signal. All you need is a car and some energy. Come and see how easy it is. You'll soon wonder how you ever really enjoyed ham radio without a rig in the car.

To put more fun in your life, go mobile!

73 de W3AWH

SPECIAL ADVANCE NOTICE

The annual Phil-Mont Auction, conducted by W3WNC, will be held again this year at the October regular meeting. All interested persons are invited to attend and bring gear for the auction. Club gets ten percent commission on all items sold, up to \$50 sale price. In past years there has been some choice loot at verrrry low prices. It also gives you a chance to get rid of that equipment you know you'll never use again but have been too sentimental to dispose of 'til now. Don't hesitate, get \$\$\$\$\$ for your old equipment.

A U C T I O N
O C T O B E R 5

W3JN should be back from "camping trip" thru Canada by this time... W3YFV has the "Change-Over Blues" in getting rig in new car... ARRL Bulletins will be read on the 10-on-10 Net from now on. W3YJM sure blew out of the midmonth meeting early; must have been afraid that the guys he left waiting for him at the Paoli Inn were going to "get" him... Anne and Barry Hecht have both passed their Novice tests, and have received the calls KN3JQC and KN3JQD, respectively. Barry showed up with Pop at MM... The club wishes to express its sympathy to W3HQJ, whose mother passed away on July 1, and to W3LNQ, whose mother died about one month later... W3PKY is back from his second trek to the far North. Someone said that if George had done the job right the first time, he wouldn't have had to go back! Seriously though, Pixie is working on the BMEWS installation, and expects to make several more trips to Thule on a rotation basis with other RCA engineers. You would expect that the summer would be a nice time to work up there, but it turns out the place one big mud hole, and they can hardly wait for it to freeze again. George took plenty of movies this time and will show them at the September meeting... The Prexy's boys are back from a vacation (for whom?) at a Boy Scout camp. W3UMK pointed out a recent column by Earl Selby in which he describes a ride he took on a soft ice cream vendor's truck. Seems as though said truck employs a generator to drive the motors of the freezers and mixing machines. Dick wonders about the usefulness of the generator equipment as a source of emergency power for CD purposes, and suggests a committee of W3IGW, W3VSU and W3UMK might look into this matter... W3IRS presented part of the program at August meeting, describing significant reduction of ignition noise by bonding fenders and other parts of car body to the engine, thus utilizing the body as a great big shield. Or, you could buy a car with a unit construction body... W3OQH has had new letterheads printed showing a picture of the Comm Truck. Same out will be used to make special CCL for 10-on-10 Round-up which will exploit the 10th Anniversary of PENC.

PERSONAL COFFEE MUG AVAILABLE.....

At the last midmonth, W3ZPP and K3DJE had samples of ceramic coffee mugs, beer mugs and ash trays, made by companies with whom they do business in the course of their work. As a favor to them, the outfits that make these items will run a batch for Phil-Mont with the Gumbaуди emblem, your name, and your call. Of all the possibilities available, it was decided to limit the item available to a six ounce coffee mug that is really a sight to behold. It's a high class job of pottery work, and would be a credit to your shack, even if you hate coffee. The club is going to sell them for \$2.25, including shipping. For this you get your own call and your own name fired permanently into the ceramic. Orders will be taken at the September meeting **WITH THE MONEY.**

25th Birthday of Amateur Mobile Radio

Reading the August Blurb, my attention was attracted to the meeting notice re-W3LJ in which it said he was interested in the old 5 meter band mobile in 1929 and 1930. I just could not recall any MOBILE amateur radio in those days, so I started checking up via my old QSTs to verify my recollections. I came up with what I think are some interesting facts, particularly to a group that is designated as "Mobile". Actually it seems that July 1959 is the 25th anniversary of MOBILE AMATEUR RADIO, at least within the regulation of F.C.C. The following explains:

The advent of the 5 meter band was probably the greatest incentive to mobile amateur radio, and from the standpoint of general amateur use and application the 5 meter band was born with an article in "QST" by Ross Hull, Asst. Editor, that was published in QST July 1931 (Receiver) and August 1931 (Transmitter). While the QST articles previously had suggested the use of 56 MCS by amateurs, there were very few of them that actually used the band for other than local tests; I recall using it as a baby sitter when my XYL and I played cards in the neighborhood, putting the mike on the end of the crib and taking a receiver with me to the card game. Receiving was the difficult item. There was NO MOBILE in 1931 authorized; you could operate portable, but legally you had to be standing still if you

transmitted. QST staff made extensive tests of the equipment described in these articles, and because so few amateurs had a receiver for 5 meters, most of their tests were made with a super-regen receiver in an automobile in and around Hartford Connecticut.

The equipment was so simply constructed, and the results were so outstanding, that 5 meters literally took amateur radio by storm. By the summer of 1932 the hilltops in the USA were littered with 5 meter experiments, and the equipment was transported by cars, however there was still no mobile operation authorized, with one exception. A couple of chaps up in the Boston Area were specifically authorized aviation mobile for the purpose of conducting tests of 56 MC gear, and were issued a special call letter (April 1932) W1ØXB, the results were earth shaking, as communication was established at several hundred miles consistently with about 10 watts to modulate oscillator. There was a clamor for mobile authorization, however, it seems that it was not until June 22, 1934 that the FCC modified regulations that permitted mobile operations for all for the 56 MC band and lower. By this time many amateurs were ready for the regulations, so the summer of 1934 really saw the beginning of amateur radio mobile operation on a fairly large scale. Most of it however, was with quite low power, and with Transceivers and 5 meter was the band. So - perhaps it is in order that the 25th Anniversary of Mobile Amateur Radio should be appropriately mentioned at this time.

73 Brad W3QV

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NOMINATING COMMITTEE FORMED

The committee for advising the club on nominees for officers to serve in 1959 has been formed with W3DOU as Chairman. Other members of the committee are W3s AWH, PST, QZ0 and ZPP. These men will be glad to receive any suggestions you may have regarding the way the election is run, or any likely prospects for office you may have in mind. In addition to the regular offices ED's job on the Board of Directors is up for grabs. Committee's nominations will be presented at the November meeting, but others may be nominated by petition until two weeks after that time.

W3PST and K3HIL were voted in as new members at last MM. Woody is now hunting suburban-type house in the city area to comply with regs regarding city employees. The other new member, Joe, just got his General Class ticket, after already having a Tech license. He has more hobbies than W3KNC and ED combined...W3JIL is now working in Pomona, N.J. (near Atlantic City). He has been commuting in his new 11'1 Singer Gazelle...W3OEC is back from a summer working at Bradford Hills Camp...About twenty showed up for the midmonth at W3CUB's. To give you an idea of the size of the place, somebody asked Bill how much of the land was his, to which he replied, "All of it"... W3DOU has finished a new mobile transmitter and is now working on a transistorized audio system and power supply...Recruits are being roinded up to handle the golf match on September 13... W3WNC has new Postal Cards for notification of FCC of intended mobile or portable operation. W3OWK reminded us that license renewal forms are available at regular meeting place...Add W3VVS for March to list of Tek-Ni-Gram authors. Tex handed out Ditto masters for all who have signed up so far. Only technical material need be drawn on masters; Tex will add a standard heading ...ED's motto: WORK FASCINATES ME - I can sit and watch it for hours...There is a move under way to have a ham exhibit for one week at Rayburn Plaza with operating stations. Very little interest from our men because of interference with regular jobs... W3PKY is making like Burton Holmes with his Arctic movies...W3YHV sent ED a pile of stuff used to make the pictures in last month's Blurbs. ED has two comments on this material: 1) It sure is complicated, and 2) It's a good thing Phil-Mont doesn't have to pay for it! A club-owned Multilith machine would be nice, but our operating expenses would increase tremendously over present cost of Blurbs. It would also move our deadline forward to the point where we could no longer include midmonth meeting news in the edition for the month immediately following i.e., MM dope would be six weeks late... W3AWH located missing "Every Single Minute" film at W6AU-TV where it had been retained for possible use on another program. It will not be used there again, however, and is being returned. W3VSU now has 118 confirmed and 25 more on the way (he hopes)... W3VVS has the job of maintaining the PA system at his church...W3LEM conducted 10-on-10 recently...

The following WU telegram was received by ED on August 21 from WLIKE, Associate Editor of QST:

HAVE YOU SUBMITTED BALLOON MOBILE ARTICLE TO ANY OTHER MAGAZINE?
IF THIS IS EXCLUSIVE TO QST, WILL USE ON COVER IN OCTOBER ISSUE.
PLEASE WIRE OR PHONE PROMPTO.
REGARDS-

BALDWIN, QST

This concerned an article written by ED which was submitted with photographs to QST a few days earlier. We got a confirming message off to QST via W3QV who put it on the EAN for delivery that night. The article was about a thousand words long and described the balloon flight made by W3JIL as well as some background material on ballooning. Four photos were sent. The one referred to by WLIKE for the cover of QST is the same one used on the BLURB cover last month. A special QSL has been made by the friend of W3YHV who draws the BLURB covers for us, and W3ZPP took care of mailing one to QST in the hopes that it will arrive in time to be included with the article. All we have to do now is sit back and await the arrival of October QST.

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ON CD de W3UMK

New Castle County, Delaware CD Headquarters was visited by our CD reporter on August 10th, while they were having a radiological exercise; nineteen monitoring teams were scattered around the county, which takes in the suburban environs of Wilmington. All of these teams reported to headquarters on two meters, where a Tecraft converter was fed into BC-348; antenna was a three section coaxial, well up in altitude. Xmr gear at HQ was standard Communicator and linear amplifier; however, as stated above Gonset was not used for reception. Bill, W3KHU, who is both RACES Radio Officer and EC for the County (and a twenty meter DX-er), said the reason was the increased gain in sensitivity afforded by using the converter into a '348'. HQ equipment also included two fifty watt commercial Xmr-rcvrs, one on two meters and one on six meters (FM). Low frequency gear was not set up yet, but NC-125, SX-71, and a Viking II with VFO and Match box were noted to be on hand. New Castle County was linked with Wilmington and the State of Delaware by two meters. In addition, county is divided into five communications zones, with a number of Local stations satellited off each zone, all using two meter Gonsey Communicators, fifty-five of which were purchased by the County. Site of the headquarters is the basement of a modern new building about five miles from Newark, and the place is completely air-conditioned. Very, very pleasant! One of the most interesting features shown to us was an emergency radio lash-up which permitted communicating with all fire and ambulance vehicles in the county. A 250 watt XMTR and a 50 watt stand-by unit were on tap; two full-time paid operators are on duty all the time, and the operators have gear to permit sounding of all the fire sirens in the County. Behind the information clerk at a hotel desk; plus two dictaphones to record all incoming calls when operators press a footswitch. (This deal was not part of CD, but located immediately adjacent to it physically)-----The CD people also explained their emergency plans a little; suffice to say that with a few minor additions, they will soon be in a position to live and eat and have a potable water supply in the building for a considerable period of time; they, of course, have a generator which kicks on automatically if they lose commercial power.

BRING YOUR GEAR THE AUCTION
WILL BE HERE OCTOBER 5

W3GOW is now in charge of Blur'b folding, with the assistance of NIP, DJE, GPP, ZPP and DOU. The job will still be done at the W3WNC Qth, but there are now enough expressing interest to ease the job and make it unnecessary for the same gang to show up every month...W3YJM is busy getting his new antenna farm installed...A ham bowling league is being started in the Phila area. Consensus at midmonth was that this should be put in the same category as the PMRC Gun Club that fizzled out as fast as it started a few years back...W3KNC just bought himself a new camera. John is waiting for transistors to be perfected before he goes mobile...Banquet committee has been formed with W3s NIP, CSS, GOW, VVS, YJM, KCX and QQH chairman. Meeting will be held at latter's Qth September 9...W3QZQ has a radio controlled model plane on six meters, but he is not saying where it is in the band... Except at the October meeting, when we will have the regular auction, there will be an abbreviated auction as part of each meeting to sell equipment acquired from an estate. Last month such items as a 24 hour clock, dynamotor, and special hi-fi tubes were sold for a total of \$28.50. More good stuff to come...To help defray expenses, ED will receive from club \$1.50 for each photo used on the Blur'b cover and 50 cents for each pix used inside the rag. At the start it looked like the photography angle could be handled without remuneration, but the cost of film and paper for the many copies needed for selection of the right picture plus extra copies for "models" is starting to get too expensive for personal resources...For those interested, R-25 1.5-3.0 mc. ARC-5 marine receivers are available from the Hoey Co., Hayward Airport, Hayward Calif. at \$9.95 plus \$2.20 shipping to Phila. These receivers are reported by W3QQH to be ideal for net operation, having an IF of 705 kc and approximately 6 kc bandwidth. Any station within 3 kc of center frequency is easily readable. They are extremely hot when used with a crystal controlled converter on 20423. At least seven are presently in use in Phila. Contact W3QQH or W3HBB for further info.

CLAMBAKE, CLOUDS, RAIN, NUTS

After all the preparation that went into the clambake at Sunny (?) brook, the weatherman had to go and louse up every thing with crummy weather. One thing can be said for that kind of day: we had the whole place to ourselves-nobody else was crazy enough (or had five bux tied up in it) to come out! ED and YL arrived a little after three, and the place looked like Las Vegas with just about everybody sitting behind a hand of cards. There were some small groups standing around shooting the breeze, but compared to some outings we have had in the past, socializing was nil. Unfortunately we were all too short-sighted to have a planned program ahead of time for stimulating conversation, at least with the Mobile Sixers who were left pretty much by themselves all afternoon. ED is as much to blame for this as anyone, but in the future, we should have some method planned for getting acquainted with strangers. The ball game was a help, but the poor weather conditions promoted lack of interest with this activity also. The same thing is true to a smaller extent with our midway meeting with the Washington group. One possibility might be to have a tour of all the mobiles, with their owners explaining what they've got under the dash and under the hood. In any event, we won't have to worry about much worse weather next year.

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W3PIT has been heard on six meters late at night with an operator that can out-talk the call's owner...W3DIZ is now in the swing of things at the Naval Academy, achieving top or near top standing in all endeavors. He'll be home for the Army-Navy game...If you thought transistors were something, wait until you latch onto a Tunnel Diode. It will perform all tube functions even up to thousands of megacycles. As a UHF amplifier it's almost as good as a parametric amplifier, but doesn't require an odd ball pump frequency. And it's just a li'l old diode...W4RP, formerly of this area, heard on frequency lately...W3YJM has acquired a power supply for his new mobile rig...W3VVS is going great guns on construction of new garage...W3VWV, Joe Grady, was spotted in the Broomall Bank by W3WNC. My couldn't determine whether Joe was putting it in or taking

it out...Don't forget to bring something for the big AUCTION in OCTOBER...The West Philly RA 'Scoop' gets better every month. Same group now offers a certificate for working mobile members...Tale concerning a man in search of a 10 mf capacitor at W3NIP's. The shelves of Chuck's place were solidly lined with 82,000 ohm resistors. Chuck allowed as how he had some 10 mf condensers, but they must be in the basement. The friend went with him to the cellar, and there, to his surprise, was another huge stock of 82 K resistors. "Say", commented the visitor, "You certainly must sell a lot of 82 K resistors!". "Nah", said Chuck with resignation, "I never sell any 82 K resistors at all. But the feller who sells me 82 Ks -- can HE sell them!". (ED Note: This is the last gag about those resistors - we hope)...W3TW is building satellite tracking station with W3DD at Haverford College...W3KNC is attempting to arrange for color films of satellite-launching rockets for a meeting in the near future...ARRL is accepting nominations for Director and Vice Director in the Atlantic Division...We're really late with this one, but W3PER has retired as Chief Op of W3TKQ at the Franklin Institute.

If you work for a large company or the Government (There's a difference?), you will appreciate the significance of this item:

A Lesson From Zoology

An ODD LITTLE CREATURE is the processionary caterpillar. He feeds on pine needles and moves through the trees, member of a long procession. His eyes are half closed and his head is snugly fitted against the backside of the fellow ahead of him.

Thinking to prove a point, a great French scientist lured a group of these caterpillars to the rim of a large flower pot, where he succeeded in linking the last with the first. The procession started moving around and around. The scientist thought that after a while the insects would catch on to his little joke, but they didn't. Centuries of instinct kept them going around in an endless circle.

Seven nights passed--and perhaps many more would have too, but for an outbreak of caterpillar deaths due to starvation. An ample supply of food was nearby in plain sight, but it was off the beaten path, and the processionary caterpillars were intent on following habit, tradition, precedent.

They mistook ACTIVITY for ACCOMPLISHMENT, but perhaps they were not to be censured. They were, after all, brainless little bugs.

..... SWAP and . SHOP
FOR SALE: SX reconditioned in 8 3/4" Rack panel. Continuous coverage 550 kc to 43 mc. Priced for use by novice or as a general coverage receiver for those with Ham Band Only receivers.

W3QQH \$ 35.00

B&W Single Sideband Receiving Adapter. Self contained audio system and power supply--only one connection to associated receiver. For 450 to 500 kc I F

W3QQH \$ 50.00

Gonset Super-ceiver, 12 v dc complete with power supply, 15 ft control cables and head. 262 kc IF, excellent condx.

W3QQH \$ 85.00

Gonset Super Six all band converter. 12 volt. Like new

W3QQH \$ 30.00

Telrad # 18-A frequency standard. 100 and 1000 kc with self contained power supply and tuned circuits for high harmonic output.

W3QQH \$ 15.00

Gonset mobile tubeless VFO, 80 to 10 mtrs Battleship construction.

W3QQH \$ 10.00

Heath Capaci-tester \$ 5.50

Transmitter-easily converted to 10 meters with dual vibrator supply

\$ 25.00

Mark II transmitter-receiver. Complete with dynamotor, remotes, antenna and spare parts. Brand new. \$ 50.00

Will trade 1-7" TV set for tape recorder.

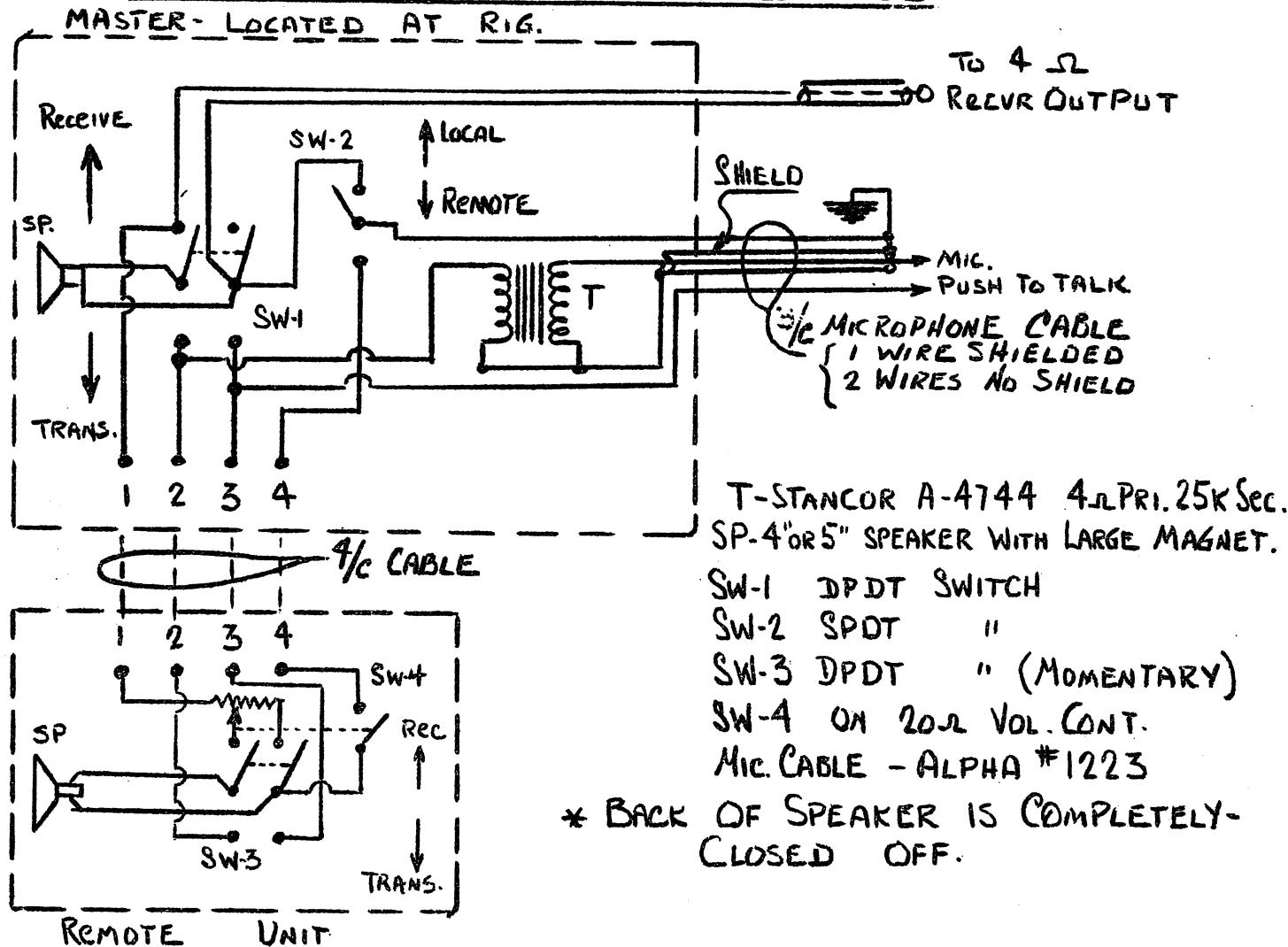
W3WNC

PHILMONT - TEK-NI-GRAM

SEPTEMBER - 1959

CONTRIBUTED BY W3WNC -

SPEAKER CONSOLE - REMOTE CONTROL



THIS SET-UP REQUIRES NO MODIFICATIONS TO COMMERCIAL BUILT RECEIVERS OR TRANSMITTERS & NO MICROPHONE IS REQUIRED, AT THE MASTER UNIT WITH SW2 IN LOCAL POSITION SP IS USED AS A MICROPHONE WHEN SW-1 IS IN TRANSMIT POSITION, & AS A SPEAKER WHEN SW-1 IS IN RECEIVE POSITION.

WITH SW-2 IN REMOTE POSITION, SW-3 IS PUSH TO TALK & RELEASE TO LISTEN. VOLUME LEVEL IS ADJUSTED WITH 20 Ω POT. SW-4 DISCONNECTS REMOTE WHEN MORE THAN ONE REMOTE IS PERMANENTLY CONNECTED.

MEETING NOTICE

TIME VALUE

RETURN POSTAGE
GUARANTEED

"THE BLURB"
A Phil-Mont Mobile Radio
Club Publication
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September 1959